

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 12, 14 - 17, 19 - 21, 23, and 24 are pending. Claims 13, 18, and 22 were previously canceled. No new matter is introduced.

In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all outstanding grounds of rejection. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application.

Applicants thank Examiner Kelvin Lin and Primary Examiner Larry Donaghue for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the personal interview (hereinafter, "interview") December 28, 2006. During the interview, Applicants' representative described the differences between the pending claims and the applied references. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the remarks that follow.

On pages 2 - 10 of the Office Action, claims 1 - 12, 14 - 17, 19 - 21, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koseki et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,732,124 ("Koseki") in view of Shealy, U.S. Patent 5,950,211 ("Shealy"). Applicants traverse these rejections.

As discussed during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Koseki nor Shealy, applied separately and in combination, discloses or suggests "allowing the consumer to resume executing the paused event so that execution of the paused event resumes prior to writing the log entry clone to the log file," as recited in independent claims 1, 12, and 17. The Office Action, at page 4, admits that Koseki does not teach this feature but states that Shealy does. In attempting to show that Shealy discloses this feature, the Office Action combines separate sections of Shealy, which do not disclose or suggest the claimed features. At page 2, paragraph 2, the Office Action states that "Shealy teaches the computer program object leakage, that is, [an] error condition resulting from dynamically-allocated data that never deallocated." The Office Action also cites Shealy at col. 3, lines 50 - 62, which describes a software implementation for detecting message block leakages. See also, Shealy, col. 3, lines 30 - 62. The teachings of "computer program object leakage," described in the Office Action, are completely irrelevant to the present claims because the claims are directed to methods and systems for logging events independently and separately from other processes in a computer system. Nevertheless, the cited sections of Shealy do not disclose or suggest "allowing the consumer to resume executing the paused event so that execution of the paused event resumes prior to writing the log entry clone to the log file," as claimed.

At the bottom of page 2 and top of page 3, the Office Action states:

[a]t col. 9, [lines] 49-64, Shealy teaches that if use-after-free error (object leakage problem) is found[,] [t]he debug routine is activated and the control is resumed to process additional message blocks as necessary (see Fig. 5, element 150-166). Therefore, Shealy does teach the message block allocation (memory consumer) is resumed prior to writing log entry clone (see Shealy col. 6, l. 6-7) to the log file.

Applicants disagree. At col. 9, lines 49-64, Shealy describes that if a use-after-free error is detected, control may be diverted to block 152 to determine whether the kernel debugger has been enabled. If the debugger is enabled, the kernel debugger is immediately called in block 154 to assist in diagnosis of the problem. After debugging, or if the debugger is not enabled, control is passed to block 166 to process additional message blocks as necessary. Moreover, at col. 6, lines 6-7, Shealy states that a “[h]istory log driver 60 (FIG. 2) preferably provides a clone device interface structure ...”. However, nothing in the cited sections of Shealy discloses or suggests that the kernel debugger or other device allows a consumer to resume execution of a paused event prior to writing the log entry clone to the log file, as claimed. The Office Action fails to show how the claimed features are disclosed or suggested by Shealy. Therefore, independent claims 1, 12, and 17 are patentable over the applied references for at least these reasons.

For the same reasons described above, Shealy does not disclose or suggest “allowing the consumer to resume executing the paused event, prior to writing the log entry information to the log file,” as recited in independent claim 21. Therefore, independent claim 21 is patentable over the applied art for at least this reason.

In addition, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, Koseki does not disclose or suggest “requesting that the log entry information be written to a log file, wherein a the consumer surrenders control of the log entry, pausing execution of the event” as recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 21. The first section of Koseki cited in the Office Action (at page 4), which purportedly discloses this feature, refers to the “Brief Description of the Drawings” section and describes Figure 19. See col. 6, lines 19-20. The second section of Koseki, cited in the Office Action, describes a metadata allocation request and a metadata deallocation request. See col. 10, lines 47-57. In this section, Shealy discloses that a metadata allocation unit 54, responding to a metadata allocation request, searches the allocation control block 51b to find a free metadata object. If a free object is found, then the metadata allocation unit 54 updates both the allocation management data 51a and allocation control block 51b to flag the object as “in use.” On the other hand, a metadata deallocation unit 55 handles a metadata deallocation request from the transaction 53, updating the

allocation management data 51a to reset the specified metadata object to the "free" state. See col. 10, lines 47-57. However, the cited sections of Koseki do not disclose or suggest "requesting that the log entry information be written to a log file, wherein a the consumer surrenders control of the log entry, pausing execution of the event" (emphasis added), as claimed. Therefore, claims 1, 12 and 21 are patentable over the applied art for these additional reasons.

For the same reasons described above, Koseki does not disclose or suggest "receiving the log entry from the consumer, thereby obtaining control of the log entry and pausing execution of the event," as recited in independent claim 17. Therefore, independent claim 17 is patentable over the applied art for these additional reasons.

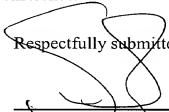
Claims 2 - 11 depend from independent claim 1, claims 14 - 16 depend from independent claim 12, claims 19 - 20 depend from independent claim 17, and claims 23 - 24 depend from independent claim 21. Therefore, claims 2 - 11, 14 - 16, 19 - 20, 23 and 24 are patentable for the reasons stated above and for the additional features they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all of the objections and rejections against this application have been fully addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections and a notice of allowance for the application are respectfully requested.

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephonic interview would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.


Respectfully submitted,

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